

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

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PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

15-10-2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference
A 197 PCT

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/SE2004/001182

International filing date (day/month/year)

12.08.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

13.08.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

F24F 13/068

Applicant

Airson AB et al

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☒ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further opinions, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

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Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-22</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	_____	YES
	Claims	<u>1-22</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-22</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

The invention refers to an air supply device and is aimed at achieving clean air in spaces.

Documents cited in the search report:

D1 SE 516775

D2 DE2608792

D3 EP787954

D1 describes an air supply device that takes in air from a low level of the premises through a device driven by a fan. The aim is to achieve clean air and avoid turbulence within the clean air zone, compare page 5 lines 27-28. The supplied air has a lower temperature than room air and is supplied through a body member consisting of two cell body layers, an inner (23b) and an outer (23a). These layers are both porous, compare page 4, col. 3. D1 includes cooling means (13), a fan (12) and air discharge unit 15; the shape of the air discharge unit 15 can be nearly circular as indicated in fig. 2 or may have another form than the one described and shown, see page 6. The invention according to claim 1 differs from the device in D1 in that the outer layer consists of many small, parallel outlet channels with a length at least four times longer than the "width". Due to these features a more laminar flow is achieved. A solution to this problem is known from D2. D2 discloses an air supply device that is for producing radial air flow displacement into a clean area while causing as little turbulence as possible. It consists of a curved surface with an inner fabric layer and an outer arrangement of many conical, parallel small channels. In order to get a

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: BOX V

laminar flow, any person within this field is well aware that the length of such channels should be longer than the cross section and this is also indicated from the figures. It is therefore considered to be obvious for a person skilled in the art to use the teachings of D2 together with prior art as specified in D1 in order to achieve an air supply device according to claim 1. Accordingly, the device as claimed in claim 1 lacks an inventive step.

Also, the person skilled in the art having D2 as a starting point, aiming to solve the identified problem, would immediately realise that the inner woven layer in D2 can be replaced with a porous layer, such as in D1. It can also be taken into consideration whether the woven layer in D2 is porous. Thus, the skilled person would arrive at the invention according to claim 1.

D1 and D2 both relate to the same technical field and the combination of what is known from D1 and D2 is considered obvious.

Note that D3 also discloses an air supply device with several outlet channels in order to obtain a low turbulence air flow. The channels have a greater length than the dimensions of their cross section.

For one skilled in the art with general knowledge and what is known from D1-D3, dependent claims 2-22 only appear to contain such alternatives that must be considered obvious. Claims 2-22 are not considered to involve an inventive step.

Also compare box VIII.

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawing or on the question whether the claim are fully supported by the description, are made:

Some of the dependent claims lack clarity. For example, claim 19 appears to contain what is desired rather than the constructional features to achieve it.